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6-18-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:  
Sheri L. Zimmel, et al.

Serial No. 09/905,762

Filed: July 14, 2001

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
OPTIMIZING TELECOMMUNICATION  
NETWORK DESIGN USING WEIGHTED  
SPAN CLASSIFICATION FOR HIGH  
DEGREE OF SEPARATION DEMANDS



Group Art Unit: 2643

Examiner: Unknown

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, and in accordance with the practice under 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed modified Form PTO-1449. No inference should be made that the cited references are in fact material, are in fact prior art, or that no better art exists. The cited patents are listed in numerical order and are not in any order based on their pertinence. Copies of the listed information are attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the United States filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required (37 CFR §1.97(b)).

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-1394.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew S. Ehmke  
Registration No. 50,271

Date: 6/4/03

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Complete if Known

Application Number	09/905,762
Filing Date	July 14, 2001
Applicant(s)	Zimmel, et al.
Art Unit	2643
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	30749.14

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 OF 2

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**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	AA	4,466,060	08/14/1984	AT&T Bell Telephone Laboratories, Incorporated
	AB	4,669,113	05/26/1987	AT&T Company; AT&T Bell Laboratories; AT&T Communications
	AC	4,706,080	11/10/1987	Bell Communications Research, Inc.
	AD	4,825,206	04/25/1989	International Business Machines Corporation
	AE	4,864,559	09/05/1989	Digital Equipment Corporation
	AF	4,891,802	01/02/1990	U.S. Philips Corporation
	AG	4,967,345	10/30/1990	International Business Machines Corporation
	AH	5,018,133	05/21/1991	Hitachi, Ltd.
	AI	5,067,148	11/19/1991	Nynex Corporation
	AJ	5,088,032	2/11/1992	Cisco Systems, Inc.
	AK	5,270,919	12/14/1993	AT&T Bell Laboratories
	AL	5,355,371	10/11/1994	International Business Machines Corp.
	AM	5,491,692	02/13/1996	Digital Equipment International Limited
	AN	5,587,919	12/24/1996	Lucent Technologies, Inc.
	AO	5,784,557	07/21/1998	Apple Computer, Inc.
	AP	5,844,886	12/01/1998	Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson
	AQ	6,047,331	04/04/2000	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
	AR	6,091,725	07/18/2000	Cisco Systems, Inc.
	AS	6,094,687	07/25/2000	FORE Systems, Inc.
	AT	6,104,701	08/15/2000	International Business Machines Corporation
	AU	6,104,724	08/15/2000	Transwitch Corp.

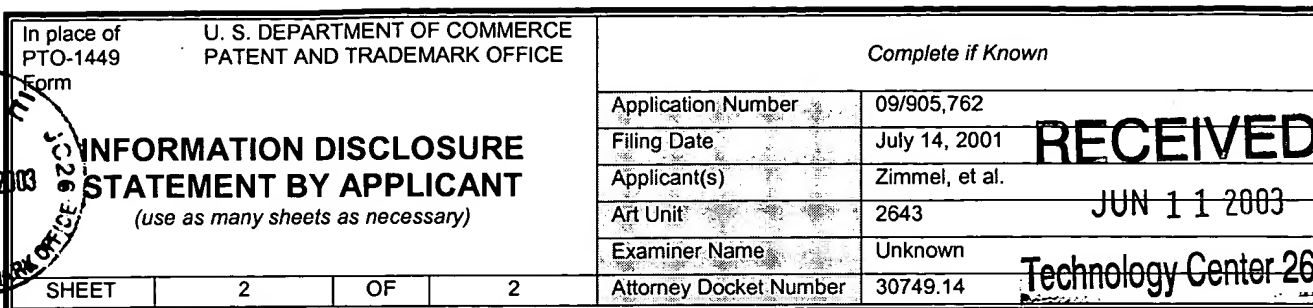
**OTHER PRIOR ART**

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item, date, page(s), volume, issue number(s), publisher, city/country where published
	AV	COSARES, SANIEE, and WASEM; <i>Network Planning with SONET Toolkit</i> ; Bellcore Exchange September/October 1992, Pages 8 - 13.
	AW	ONDRIA J. WASEM; <i>An Algorithm for Designing Rings in Communication Networks</i>
	AX	SUJATA BANERJEE and VICTOR O. K. LI; <i>Order-P: An Algorithm to Order Network Partitionings</i>
	AY	TSONG-HO WU and RICHARD C. LAU; <i>A Class of Self-Healing Ring Architectures for SONET Network Applications</i> ; IEEE Transactions on Communications; Vol. 40, No. 11, November 1999.
	AZ	J.B. SLEVINSKY, W.D. GROVER, and M.H. MACGREGOR; <i>An Algorithm for Survivable Network Design Employing Multiple Self-Healing Rings</i>

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Signature

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	BA	Depth First Search; <a href="http://hissa.nist.gov/dads/HTML/depthfirst.html">http://hissa.nist.gov/dads/HTML/depthfirst.html</a> ; September 22, 2000
	BB	Breadth First Search; <a href="http://hissa.nist.gov/dads/HTML/breadthfirst.html">http://hissa.nist.gov/dads/HTML/breadthfirst.html</a> ; September 22, 2000
	BC	JOHN F. DILLENBURG and PETER C. NELSON; <i>Improving the Efficiency of Depth-First Search by Cycle Elimination</i> ; <a href="http://www.ai.uic.edu/~dillenbu/papers/cycle2.html">http://www.ai.uic.edu/~dillenbu/papers/cycle2.html</a> ; September 22, 2000
	BD	<a href="http://www.markwatson.com/opencontent/aisearch/DepthFirstSearch.java">http://www.markwatson.com/opencontent/aisearch/DepthFirstSearch.java</a> ; September 22, 2000
	BE	<i>Depth first vs. Breadth first search</i> ; <a href="http://www.cee.hw.ac.uk/~alison/ai3notes/paragraph2_6_2_1_0_1.html">http://www.cee.hw.ac.uk/~alison/ai3notes/paragraph2_6_2_1_0_1.html</a> ; September 22, 2000

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